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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/904,269	07/12/2001	Dennis L. Mathies	INTL-0571-US (P11416)	2029

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EXAMINER

DONG, DALEI

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2875

DATE MAILED: 08/05/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/904,269

Applicant(s)

MATTHIES, DENNIS L.

Examiner

Dalei Dong

Art Unit

2875

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 July 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 12 July 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,458,005 to Baker in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,756,147 to Wu.

Regarding to claims 1-20, Baker discloses in Figure 2, "at block 52 a tile 22 (*second sheet*) is secured to the tile chuck 24 by a vacuum and a cover plate 10 (*temporarily flattening a sheet*) is held in place by a vacuum on vacuum chuck 12. At block 53, the compliance is turned on (i.e., the pistons 48 are disengaged from the linear clutch 44) and the motor 30 is actuated to lower the tile chuck carrier 28. The tile 22 is brought into intimate contact with the cover plate 10, regardless of the tolerances on either the cover plate 10 or tiles 14 at block 54 (*secure flatten sheet to second sheet while continuing to hold sheet in a flattened configuration*). This alignment is the "zero" gap position. A sensor 31 may be used to detect when alignment has been achieved. In block 55, the compliance is turned off (i.e., the pistons 48 are pressed into the linear clutch 44), locking the chucks 24 in this position" (column 2, line 62 to column 3, line 7).

in a flattened configuration). A rear electrode layer 14 is formed on the substrate 12. As shown in the Figures, for display applications, the rear electrode 14 consists of rows of conductive address lines (*row electrode*) centered on the substrate 12 and spaced from the substrate edges. A electric contact tab 16 protrudes from the electrode 14. A first, thick dielectric layer 18 is formed above the rear electrode 14, followed by a second, thinner dielectric layer 20 (*either dielectric layer can be the integrator plate*). A phosphor layer 22 (*light emitting layer, also it is old and well known in the art to utilize an organic light emitting material for an electroluminescent device*) is formed above the second dielectric layer 20, followed by a front, transparent electrode layer 24. The front electrode layer 24 is shown in the Figures as solid, but in actuality, for display applications, it consists of columns of address lines (*column electrode*) arranged perpendicular to the address lines of the rear electrode 14. The laminate 10 is encapsulated with a transparent sealing layer 26 (*second sheet*) to prevent moisture penetration. An electric contact 28 is provided to the second electrode 24" (column 10, line 56 to column 11, line 5).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have utilize the vacuum chucks and method of Baker to manufacture the electroluminescent device of Wu in order to securely lock the flattened supports in place while minimizing wrap and disturbance occurring in the supports, and furthermore accurately laminated and process the supports of the device.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-20 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

The following prior art are cited to further show the state of the art of method of manufacturing.

U.S. Patent No. 6,114,088 to Wolk.

U.S. Patent No. 6,197,385 to Takeshita.

U.S. Patent No. 6,203,621 to Tran.

U.S. Patent No. 6,270,944 to Wolk.

U.S. Patent No. 6,576,351 to Silvernail.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dalei Dong whose telephone number is (703)308-2870. The examiner can normally be reached on 8 A.M. to 5 P.M..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sandra O'Shea can be reached on (703)305-4939. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703)872-9318 for regular communications and (703)872-9319 for After Final communications.

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703)308-0956.

D.D.

July 18, 2003


Sandra O'Shea
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Technology Center 2800